GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4340
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008
LEASE OF CHIRIA IRON ORE MINE
Barman Shri Hiten

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate quantity of iron-ores available in Chiria mine;

(b) whether the Government proposes to transfer the lease of some parts of the Chiria mine to Mittal Steels; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) The approximate quantity of iron ore available at Chiria is about 1850 million tonnes.

(b)&(c):The six mining leases at Chiria were originally allotted to the erstwhile Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO) and after its merger with the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) these leases have passed on to SAIL. Out of the six leases, three are under deemed extension. The renewal applications for the remaining three leases were submitted on time to the State Government of Jharkhand by SAIL, but were rejected in 2004-05. As per the provisions of the Mines and Minerals

(Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR), the authority to renew mining leases lies with the State Government. This matter is now pending with the courts and the Ministry of Steel has also been attempting to have this matter resolved out of court.

There is no proposal to transfer the lease of some parts of the Chiria mine to Mittal Steel. SAIL is not in a position to share the resources of Chiria Mines as the iron ore resources with SAIL are not sufficient to meet its own long term requirements.